■ Business / B1

Foreign debt seen swelling to $59.4B



■ Across / A15

NPAs raid cop station, Army camp

■ Metro / A19

NBI nabs Pinoy, one of most wanted in US



■ Lifestyle

Graduation blowout

Tabloid / A18

Guingona's defection: Sino ang talo? Sino ang panalo?



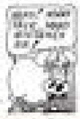
Finance chief to probe why tax scam accuser is accused

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Thursday, March 18, 2004 • 36 pages | vol. 19 | no. 100

Tito's first advice to FPJ: Talk longer than 7 minutes



PNP fears bloody polls

125 private armies all over country identified



LET THEM EAT CAKE: Candidates never address the continuing state of the nation. A little boy with the sidewalk along Session Road in Baguio City for a bed...

2 KNP Senate bets ask SC: Get GMA out

Then there were 2—Roco, Villanueva

60 Filipino teachers in US to lose jobs

Erap lawyers petition for 'rest house arrest'

ON THE ROAD



ROCO IN TACLOBAN



GMA IN DAVAO CITY



LACSON IN BINONDO

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FrontPage

FPJ camp seeks truce with Ping

By Carlito Pablo and Norman Bordadora

THE CAMP of Fernando Poe Jr. yesterday appealed to breakaway presidential candidate Sen. Panfilo Lacson and his people to desist from further issuing adversarial statements against the actor and his group.

Pimentel says he was top VP pick of 3 bets

By Christine O. Avendaño

Loren confident Poe won't junk her

By Christine O. Avendaño



LEGARDA

Majority of NPC solons poised to join FPJ camp





FOUR DIGIT
SUERTRES

METRO

MEGALOTTO 6/45

BF keeps hands off vendors

Denies Palace pressure to stop unpopular drive

Ad boycott drive goes to places, cyberspace



5 Metro rivers declared dead

Wanted man in US nabbed in Bulacan

Cainta cop chief sacked over robbery

307 arrested in Metro for gun ban violation

Bus coding scheme snarls traffic in Edsa

No country is safe from terrorism

On Target
Ramon Tulfo



MetroBriefs



BIG GAMBLE

Guingona barbs irk Palace

Local feud leads to scrapping of KNP rally

Rescuers winding down

No pullout from Iraq

14th year for New Beginnings



Old building collapses; 10 looters feared dead

DQ case vs FPJ still alive

By Philip C. Tubeza

Usec defends DFA chief's travels

Manifesto of Confidence for

ADMINISTRATOR JAMES C. LEDESMA

SUGAR REGULATORY ADMINISTRATION

from

Panay Federation of Sugarcane Farmers, Inc.
PASSI (Iloilo) Sugar Central, Inc.
Capiz Sugar Central, Inc.

WHEREAS, the domestic prices of sugar have been falling and some sugar producers have criticized the present Administration, particularly the Administrator of the Sugar Regulatory Administration, Mr. James C. Ledesma, for his perceived inability to address the problem.

WHEREAS, Sugarcane producers and millers in Panay believe that the problem of depressed prices are due to factors which have nothing to do with the competence and integrity of Mr. Ledesma but rather, are a result of factors beyond his control such as persistent reports of outright and/or technical smuggling, loopholes in our tariff and customs laws, lack of access of quedan financing among others.

NOW THEREFORE, Sugarcane produces and millers in Panay hereby express its full faith and support in the competence, integrity and dedication of Mr. James C. Ledesma in addressing the issue of falling sugar prices.

We will oppose any move to replace him because we believe that he is the best person for the job as he is the one most familiar with all the issues and any such move can only derail all the efforts that have already been made and the gains achieved by the industry under his leadership.

President

President

Vice President / Resident General Manager

USE PHILIPPINE SUGAR,
the natural sweetener

GMA: Unemployment biggest problem



Failure

60 Filipino teachers in US to lose jobs

Unfulfilled promise

'Help your country'

Little relief for overseas workers in trouble

'Firefighting'

Not enough jobs

Odds against them

BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. AFF-04-01

THE DAILY GOSPEL

SPORTS

■ Tanquincen named new Ginebra coach
■ Pagunsan hot favorite in Tour

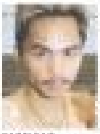
Young lifts Alaska Aces past Express



FORMER LaSallian Ren-Ren Ritualo (right) of FedEx and Alaska's Willie Wilson go up against each other

MAY 8

Pacquiao-Marquez fight at MGM Grand



PACQUIAO

Mayol, Tampus KO rivals

The WORLD

More US allies fear terror attacks



Kerry declares victory, fires back at Bush

Authorities knew al-Qaida link of key Madrid bombing suspect



NEW PLANET

More than 40 dead in Russian gas blast

Awol in Iraq, soldier turns protester

Vast reserves of frozen water on Mars



UNIQUELY INDONESIAN

Haiti's interim premier forms government

Taiwan hits joint exercises

DOE FUEL ECONOMY RUN FOR PASSENGER & LIGHT DUTY VEHICLES 2004

TOTAL

The **Department of Energy (DOE)** in partnership with **TOTAL (Philippines) Corporation** recently concluded its biggest **Fuel Economy Run (FER)** for passenger and light duty vehicles to date. This year's FER had 22 official entries from nine automobile manufacturers. TOTAL was the exclusive fuel provider for the event. The route was from the Dept. of Energy Compound, Taguig, Metro Manila to Lipa City, Batangas then back to Manila at TOTAL Service Station in EDSA, Pasay City.

The objective of the FER was to determine the fuel consumption of participating vehicles under similar driving conditions. Having gathered this data, we now present the results to encourage the public to practice and promote fuel-efficient driving habits.

A. Gasoline Fueled Vehicles

MAKE/MODEL	CATEGORY	ENGINE DISPLACEMENT (cc)	TRANSMISSION TYPE	FUEL CONSUMED (liters)	FUEL MILEAGE (kilometer/liter)
VOLVO/S 80	Passenger Car	1984	Automatic/Manual (Geartronic)	12.57	13.524
TOYOTA/Vios		1496	Automatic	7.574	22.445
NISSAN/Sentra		1769	Automatic	11.985	14.187
HONDA/City		1300	Manual	10.337	16.134
HONDA/City		1300	Automatic	11.726	15.143
HONDA/Civic		1600	Manual	9.811	17.327
KIA Rio		1493	Manual	10.776	16.545
TOYOTA/Vios		1298	Manual	8.319	20.435
NISSAN/X Trail	SUV	2500	Automatic	14.152	12.012
VOLVO/XC 70		2435	Automatic/Manual (Geartronic)	13.766	10.796
NISSAN/X Trail		2000	Automatic	14.917	11.396
KIA/Sorento		3497	Automatic	20.498	8.294

B. Diesel Fueled Vehicles

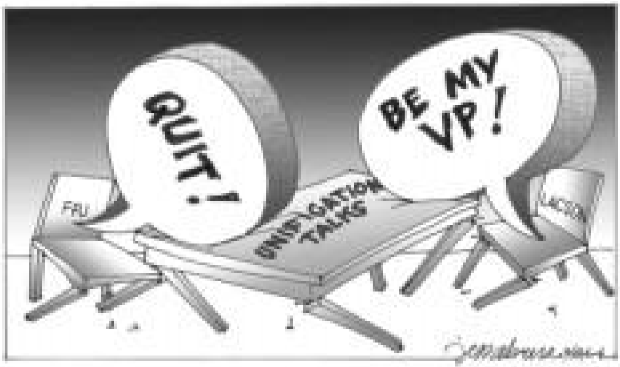
MAKE/MODEL	CATEGORY	ENGINE DISPLACEMENT (cc)	TRANSMISSION TYPE	FUEL CONSUMED (liters)	FUEL MILEAGE (kilometer/liter)
BMW 530D	Passenger Car	2993	Automatic/Manual (Steptronic)	8.009	21.237
ISUZU/Crosswind	AUV	2500	Manual	8.683	19.578
BMW X5	SUV	2993	Automatic/Manual (Steptronic)	13.933	12.201
UMC Nissan Patrol		2955	Manual	14.917	11.396
MITSUBISHI/Pajero		3200	Automatic	14.210	11.959
MITSUBISHI/Endeavor	Pickup	2477	Manual	11.624	14.625
MITSUBISHI/Strada		2477	Manual	12.419	13.689
ISUZU/D-Max		2999	Manual	10.212	16.647
UMC Nissan/Frontier		2664	Manual	11.359	14.966
KIA/Sedona	Van	2902	Manual	12.069	13.214

Technical Notes:

VICENTE S. PÉREZ, JR.
Department of Energy
Secretary

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION



Big joke

EDITORIAL

Containing bird flu

FOREIGN COMMENT

Backsliding—yet again

VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado

Postscript to a defection

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

Judgment of history can't be ignored—Abad

POLITICAL TIDBITS



Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

'Thief and dictator'

HUMAN FACE



Ma. Ceres P. Doyo

The great equalizer

THE LONG VIEW



Manuel L. Quezon III

A piece of Buliok

YOUNG BLOOD

THEY SAID

Hollywood premium

In a time of politics

TALK *of the* TOWN

Editor: Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

ELECTIONS 2004

Voters view presidential platforms (2)

FROM THE GENERAL to the specific. This is the approach we are taking in allowing voters to give their assessment of the platforms of government of the five presidential candidates—President Macapagal-Arroyo, Fernando Poe Jr., Raul Roco, Panfilo Lacson and Eddie Villanueva. The Commission on Elections has disqualified Eddie Gil for being a nuisance candidate.

On Sunday, a group of young professionals and two professors gave a general assessment of the platforms of the candidates.

Today, we are focusing on gay rights, population, globalization and agriculture (food security)—four of the 30 concerns which we believe the candidates for national office should address.

In the next issue of Talk of the Town, individuals belonging to a group or sector will give their critique of the positions of the presidential candidates on such issues as unemployment, housing, education, insurgency and environment.

We are giving voters the opportunity to give their critique of the platforms of the presidential candidates in line with the Inquirer's citizen-based coverage of the national elections.

Candidates gave safe answers on gay rights

By Anna Leah Sarabia

Supporting family planning is good politics

By Benjamin de Leon



Review trade commitments to the WTO

By Wigberto E. Tañada

Please detail position on agriculture

By Ernesto M. Ordoñez

Across the NATION

NPA raids cop station, Army camp; 7 wounded



NPAs release captured gov't soldiers' photos

Roundup

Suspected drug pusher nabbed

Lanao council bet abducted

Doctor joins Bataan foundation

'Illegal dismissal' of barangay head

Jaworski promises projects for Negros

DOJ dismisses kidnapping charges



NO KIDDING

SC affirms death sentence for kidnap

German accused of rape commits suicide

INQUIRER Southern Luzon

'Rondalla' fest plucks strings of unity

By Juan Escandor Jr. and Alan Petrea
Naga City

FOR FIVE days last month, 17 groups from Spain, Mexico, Russia, United States, Australia, Israel and the Philippines treated Bicolanos to rondalla music that organizers said celebrated a "shared heritage" with the rest of the world.

Dubbed "Cuerdas de Unidad (strings of unity)" or the "Usnan sin Kapaloob" in Bicolano, the first ever multinational rondalla festival held in Naga City on Feb. 10-14 aimed to promote the musical tradition, interpreted in diverse cultural orientations of the participating nations.

It also hoped to establish linkages to promote cooperation and exchange for the continuous development of this musical tradition.

Evolution and innovation

For the first time, the evolution and innovation of rondalla in different cultures around the world were offered to the public.

From folk to rock, classical to experimental, the 17 ensembles interpreted scores and pieces in varied cultural expressions reflective of their diverse nationalities.

Musicians, aged 9 to 71 years old, participated in the festival.

Andres Garcia, a member of the La Rondalla Mexicana, explained in Spanish that they came all the way from Mexico to show that rondalla music transcended national boundaries.

The warm reception they received in Naga, he said, inspired them to do their best to contribute to the appreciation of the rondalla in the mainstream performing arts.

Symbol

"Through the music, we came together to unite our emotions in the form of art expression using the rondalla as a symbol of unity," Garcia added.

Of the participating nations, the Philippines has 11 ensembles, namely, the Candelaria Community Rondalla, Cebu Bajaya? Rondalla, Davao City National High School Rondalla, Kabataang Rondalla Bikol Ensemble, Himdaswaros?, Andres Bonifacio Alumni Rondalla, Bantaw?, Naga Central School Rondalla, Philippine Normal University Rondalla, University of Santo Tomas Rondalla, and the University of the Philippines Rondalla.

The rest have one ensemble each, like the Dani Plenatis? of Russia, Three Plucked Strings of Israel, and Tuna Romantica? of Spain. Those from the US and Australia were represented by Filipino expatriates, the Bibingka? Sang Filipino Rondalla and the Rondalliers.



THIS photo of young "rondalla" musicians known as the "Estudiantinas of Nueva Caceres" (now Naga City) was taken in the early 1900s on the old cathedral grounds.

Music's finest

Ramon P. Santos, commissioner of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, said the choice of Bicol as festival venue hardly met resistance among the organizers. The region has produced some of the finest musical artists of the land, he said.

It was in Naga where the rondalla tradition in the country had flourished before it diffused to other parts of the world, Santos revealed. The city also has something to show in terms of its rich historical and religious landmarks and heritage, and its idyllic scenery that enthrall first-time visitors and tourists, he added.

Aside from the local government's desire to underscore the city's emerging role as venue of major national and regional events, the enthusiasm of members of the Development Institute of Bicolano Artists had made the selection of Naga as host and co-presenter of the rondalla festival feasible, said Jose B. Perez, director of the Naga City Visitors Center.

Origins

The origin of the rondalla has several versions, according to Winston F. Rubio, in his book "The Roving Rondalla from the Filipino Heritage: The Making of a Nation."

One says a group of young men went around regularly to play and sing in front of houses. Another says it was a group of street musicians, called the tunas or murga, begging for alms. Similar groups were also found in Spain and Mexico.

In another version, it was a musicians' group, called the comparsa, playing on stage, while still another says it was a typical music group popular among universities in Spain in the seventeenth (ciento or tuna for short). Members played mandolins, violins, guitars, flutes, cellos, basses, tambourines, castanets and triangles. The students donned gitano costumes.

Nueva Caceres

Perez said the rondalla in Naga, then known as Nueva Caceres, flourished among students of the Seminario Conciliar de Nueva Caceres (now the Holy Rosary Minor Seminary) who were called the Estudiantinas.

They traditionally plucked their instruments during the Holy Week as part of the Lenten rites and other religious celebrations.

Instruments

Historians traced the rondalla's beginnings in the Philippines to the 16th century when the Spanish colonizers introduced it.

The rondalla is an ensemble composed largely of the bandurria and other stringed musical instruments classified in the cittern family—including lutes, banjos, octavinas and laud.

The bandurria, the main string instrument, is a pear-shaped, short-necked lute popular in southern Spain. In the Philippines and Spain, it is a 14-string to 16-string instrument plucked fast with a pick. A 28-member ensemble has at least 14 bandurrias.

'Rondalla' ensemble

Other instruments common in a rondalla ensemble are guitars, banjos, octavina or a big guitar-like instrument that carries the bass, drums and other percussion instruments.

In the 1960s, the rondalla made its mark among Filipino communities in California, New York and Hawaii in the United States as an expression of cultural identity.

Later, Filipino-Americans started establishing rondalla schools at the University of California in Los Angeles, University of Michigan, University of Hawaii and the National University of Singapore.

According to Nestor de la Peña, festival project director, the schools began attracting students of other nationalities and cultural roots.

Patrimony

Santos said the rondalla's musical tradition has retained its own expressive character and has branched into greater plurality than before, enhancing "love cultural harmony." The rondalla is "a patrimony that is shared by other cultures and civilizations," he said.

Since it was introduced in the early Spanish era, the rondalla has evolved to distinctly Filipino character. It has been around in the Mediterranean region, Middle East, western and eastern Europe, northern Africa and other parts of Asia.

In launching the festival, the NCCA and the Developmental Institute of Bicol Artists hoped to bring the rondalla to the mainstream of performing arts.

When the Cuerdas de Unidad pulled its curtain down on Feb. 14, the organizers were certain that cultural exchange and harmony had been achieved among the participants.

Erap lawyers petition . . .

City arrest

Golf cart

Compassion

Finance chief to probe . . .

Whistle-blower

Records to Ombudsman

Confidence

PNP fears bloody May elections



A REVIEW of the status of government preparations for the May elections is conducted at Camp Aguinaldo by the top guns.

Private armies

ROTC cadets to keep the peace

Then there were 2–Roco, Villanueva

Praise

Three empty chairs

Arrogant

Whimsical

Duty to face people

Unpresidential







2 KNP Senate bets ...

'Pure harassment'

Too much temptation

'Moral theory'

Examples

Counter-affidavit

Tito's first advice to FPJ: Talk longer

More fire

Aussies waffle on RP bananas

BUSINESS

Foreign debt seen swelling to $59.4B

[illegible]

Malacañang optimistic CalPERS is staying

[illegible]

CURRENCIES



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

GOLD

STOCK MARKET

PSE COMPOSITE INDEX



Stocks cut 8-day drop

[illegible]

Court rules against BIR on cigarette tax regulation

BPI sees 5-10% profit growth

Mad life crisis

BREAKTIME



Conrado R. Banal III

Benguet Corp. submits bid document

ABS-CBN seeks $30-M loan

Foreign debt burden . . .

Disclosures

Currencies

Business

Next gov't must cut deficit, says BSP chief



Politics stunts power sector growth

LifeStyle

Editor: Chito Bautista-Paz

MONDAY ARTS • TUESDAY FITNESS • WEDNESDAY 18U • THURSDAY FOOD • FRIDAY HOME & FASHION • SUNDAY SURPRISES



PASTEL de Elote can also be baked in muffin pans. Note that even the muffin cake liners are in the Mexican colors of red, white and green.

Olé for Mexican cuisine

Text and photos by [illegible]
Contributor

IF all you know about Mexican cooking are tacos and beans, you have a lot to learn from Silvia Inoue, a Mexican by birth and married to a Japanese national, who whips up dishes of both Mexican and Japanese provenance.

In a recent cooking demonstration [illegible] Silvia presented a red, white and green menu of Mexican cuisine.

Three colors of the Mexican flag dominate typical Mexican food, Silvia says. Red is represented by tomatoes, white by white onions and green by chilies and coriander.

[illegible]

[illegible]



PASTEL de Elote can also be baked and served in a [illegible] serving dish.



CARLOS and Malou Callejo

Hot Spanish food in breezy Tagaytay



[illegible] de Cerdo—boiled pig knuckles cooked in Carlos' special sauce

Carlos Callejo put up his restaurant as a tribute to his wife's excellent cooking, which nourished him back to health



RELLENO de Pollo—stuffed chicken cooked in chorizo, paprika and herbs

By [illegible]

IN THE CASTILIAN setting he created in Las Reinas de Tagaytay, Carlos Callejo looks more like the man from La Mancha than a Spanish-Filipino restaurateur. That is because he had just emerged triumphant from a quixotic battle with liver cancer.



ARROZ a la Cubana (upper dish)—Spanish way of cooking minced meat served with rice and [illegible] banana; Callos (lower)—an all-time favorite

Mongolian madness

SAN Miguel Purefoods Culinary Center shows you how to cook and set up a Mongolian feast that will surely earn you more than just a passing mark.

Mongolian Barbecue

Variations on spaghetti

Meatless Spaghetti

Spaghetti with Tuna

Spaghetti with Chicken Liver and Bacon

Try sardine pasta for a change

Fusilli Tricolori with Spicy Sardines Putanesca

	Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner
MONDAY	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
TUESDAY	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
WEDNESDAY	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
THURSDAY	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
FRIDAY	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
SATURDAY	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
SUNDAY	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Olé for Mexican cuisine



SILVIA Inoue

portions, then blended before baking. It is a family recipe, and Silvia doesn't want to tamper with family tradition.

Come April, Silvia will be moving back to Japan permanently. Her only child, daughter Nozomi Cumming ("nozomi gift"), who was born in the Philippines, will be her best memory of the Philippines, she says.

Frijoles

1 c black beans, soaked overnight
1 ½ to 2 liters water
1 onion
2 cloves garlic
1 avocado leaf or coriander
2 cloves garlic, chopped
½ tomato, chopped
½ onion, chopped
coriander, chopped
vegetable oil

Rinse soaked beans and boil in 1½ liters of water with the onions, garlic and avocado leaf or coriander. Cook for two hours or until tender.

Puree the beans in a blender. Heat the oil in cooking pan and saute the garlic, onion, tomatoes and coriander. Add the pureed beans and saute. Season to taste.

Albondigas

150 g ground pork
150 g ground beef
1 onion, chopped
1 tomato, chopped
1 egg
salt and pepper to taste
cumin seeds or 1 tsp cumin powder
1 egg, hardboiled, chopped
3 tomatoes, blanched, peeled, pureed with onion

Mix the ground meats well with the chopped tomatoes, chopped onion, egg, salt and pepper and cumin. Shape into balls of desired size. Flatten and stuff with chopped hardboiled egg and roll into balls again.

Heat oil in cooking pan, saute the tomato sauce and add 1 chicken broth cube. When the sauce boils, add the meatballs and simmer till well cooked.



MEXICAN Albondigas has a surprise in the center—chopped hard boiled eggs. The meatballs, a combination of ground beef and pork, have tomatoes and onion in the mixture and are simmering in tomato sauce.

Pastel de Elote

6 cobs of yellow corn, kernels scraped
5 eggs
100 g butter, melted
1 can condensed milk
1 tbsp baking powder

Divide the corn kernels into two portions.

To one portion, add the eggs and melted butter. Process in blender. Do not overprocess. Pour mixture into big bowl.

To the second portion, add the condensed milk and the baking powder. Process in blender.

Combine and blend well the two mixtures. Pour into a greased and floured 13" x 9" pan, preferably from where it can be served. Bake at 350°F for 35 minutes. Or bake in muffin pans lined with paper lining for a dessert item.

Cooking classes in March

FOLLOWING is the schedule of Reggie Aspiras' cooking classes for the rest of the month:

March 15—Indonesian 101 [illegible]

March 20—The Ultimate Coffee Class [illegible]

March 22—A meal in a plate (soup, salad and pasta) [illegible]

March 24 (Wednesday)—Asian Kakanin 101 [illegible]

March 26—Salad Making 101 [illegible]

Call [illegible]

Teaching tiny cooks

ENROLLMENT is ongoing for Vicky Veloso-Barrera's Tiny Kitchen children's cooking classes this school break.

Classes for this year's Tiny Kitchen 2 are for kids seven and up. A full menu is taught in each class, including main dish, side dish, drink and dessert. The kid-tested recipes are all safe, easy and fun to do. They were especially developed for kids by Barrera.

Students can choose to attend classes on Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday for five consecutive weeks beginning March 20 until May 2. The second set of classes begins May 10 and ends June 7. Classes are held 9-11 a.m.

Each five-session course costs P5,500, inclusive of ingredients. Children take home what they cook. Only seven children will be accepted in each class.

Now on its sixth year, some 250 children have enrolled in the Tiny Kitchen classes.

Call [illegible]